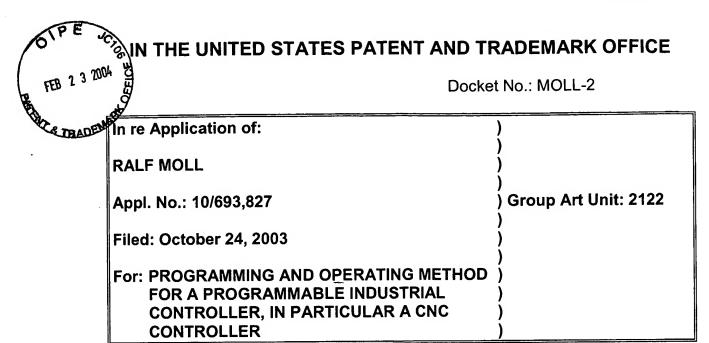
PATENT



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on February 19, 2004.

(Date)

HENRY M. FEIEREISEN
Name of Registered Representative

2-19-2004 Date of Signature

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references A) to F) which were cited in the European Partial Search Report issued by the European Patent Office with regard to the corresponding European patent application No. EP 03 02 3214, and to the references G) to K) which were cited in an Office Action issued in the corresponding German patent application No. 102 49 677.3 by the German Patent Office. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

	Country:	Patent or Appl. No:	Patentee or Applicant:	Issue or Filing Date:
A)	Germany	DE 198 34 863 A1	Kranitzky	02-03-2000
B)	Europe	EP 1 150 190 A2	Becker et al.	10-31-2001
C)	Germany	DE 101 10 049 A1	Hurich	09-05-2002
D)	Germany	DE 100 08 974 A1	Schmidt	09-06-2001
E)	PCT	WO 01/52003 A1	Von Wendorff	07-19-2001
F)	Europe	0 337 122 A2	Belkhiter	10-18-1989
Ġ)	Germany	DE 692 21 046 2	Hirai	03-05-1998
H)	Germany	DE 101 28 829 A1	Deitz et al.	04-25-2002
I)	Germany	DE 100 08 020 A1	Blevins et al.	08-24-2000
J)	Germany	"Sicherheit im Interi	net" by H. Bernstein:	00-00-1999
Ŕ)	Germany	DE 198 51 709 A1	Braband	05-04-2000

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

- [] This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- [] This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

- [] This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- [] This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.
- [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
- [] The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

- [] That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;
- [] That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- [] The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).

[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which

may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In order to satisfy the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for a concise

explanation of the relevance of each item of information, applicant herewith

submits a copy of the European Search Report together with a translation of the

relevant pages thereof. In addition, applicant notes with respect to any information

that is not in English language as follows:

Reference G) describes a process in which the decimal numbers in ASCII

code are converted into base n number codes, wherein the base n is greater than

ten, and then are transmitted between the main control unit (1) and the terminals

(2, 3, 4) including servo systems (3) and spindle systems (4) in an automated

factory system. The data are thus compressed, and a greater number of spindles

of the numerically controlled devices, etc., can be controlled within a

predetermined time length for transmitting the data.

Reference H) describes a security module analyzing the security

information collected in relation to the start of an authentication function, to judge

whether the security function is to be executed or not.

Reference I) describes a diagnostic tool which automatically collects and

stores data indicative of a variability parameter, a mode parameter, a status

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parameter and a limit parameter associated with each of the different devices,

loops or function blocks within a process control system, processes the collected

data to determine which devices, loops or function blocks have problems that

result in reduced performance of the process control system, displays a list of

detected problems to an operator and then suggests the use of other, more

specific diagnostic tools to further pinpoint or correct the problems. When the

diagnostic tool recommends and executes a data intensive application as the

further diagnostic tool, it automatically configures a controller of the process

control network to collect the data needed for such a tool.

Reference J) is an article about safety features in the Internet and relates to

encoding processes.

Reference K) describes a method providing public and secret keys to each

sub-system. The sub-system determines a certification instance, an official body,

to certify the membership of the key to the sub-system with a certificate. Each

sub-system receives a key certificate and a certificate from the certifying body.

Each person involved in the production and testing of product software undersigns

the product software and redirects the current signature with the secret key

together with his/her own key certificate. The certifying body generates a tester list

for each user and signs it. The target computer accepts and end tests the product

software, chained list of signatures and the list of key certificates of the

participants and the tester list.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention

patentable over this prior art.

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Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

By:

Henry M. Feiereisen Agent for Applicant Reg. No. 31,084

Date: February 19, 2004 350 Fifth Avenue Suite 4714 New York, N.Y. 10118 (212) 244-5500

HMF:be

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	DE 198 34 863 A1		02-03-2000		Germany	any						
	EP 1 150 190 A2		10-31-2001		Europe							
	DE 101 10 049 A1		09-05-2002		Germany							
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^{*}Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.